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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

NFAC 2912-81 *17*
14 May 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment
Acting Chairman, National Intelligence Council *10X*

FROM: Robert C. Ames
National Intelligence Officer for NESAC

SUBJECT: NSC Agenda Item

Attached is a State Department policy paper on Libya which has been placed on the NSC agenda for Friday, May 15th. As the paper points out, the recommendations have been thoroughly considered in the IG-SIG process and I endorse the proposed program. However, I have pointed out repeatedly and feel it is worth mentioning again that we should proceed with the following in mind:

- We should not single out Qadhafi but rather make it clear we hold the Libyan government responsible for that country's policies. This will deny Qadhafi the opportunity to distort our efforts to his advantage and will put his colleagues - who are his potential successors - on notice that they must deal with him or pay the consequences. We do not want to elevate Qadhafi's stature by making him appear to be a major Middle East player or to enhance his ability to play the martyr role [redacted]

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- We should leave Qadhafi some channel for signaling his willingness to moderate his policies. He has a practical streak; he wants to stay in power; and he is vulnerable. Although he is not likely to alter his policies significantly, such a development is not out

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of the question. And, we do not want to leave him no
options save the Soviets.

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Robert C. Ames

Attachment:
State Dept. Policy Paper on Libya

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